

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed on March 31, 2008. Applicants respectfully traverse (and do not concede) all objections, rejections, adverse statements, and adverse assertions made by the Examiner. With this amendment, claims 5-6, 11-12, 16, 21, 24, and 26 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-15, 17-20, 22-23, and 25 remain pending.

Elections/Restrictions

The Examiner has asserted that restriction to one invention is required under 35 U.S.C. §121. The Examiner identified the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-25, drawn to a method for manufacturing a balloon catheter, and
- II. Claim 26, drawn to a cutting balloon catheter.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute invention I without traverse, corresponding to claims 1-25. Claim 26 is withdrawn from consideration.

The Examiner additionally indicated that if invention I is elected, that Applicants are required to elect a species from each genus below:

- Genus I directed to the particular method of liquefying the strip.
 - Species I-A directed to liquefying the strip with a laser.
 - Species I-B directed to liquefying the strip with a solvent.
- Genus II directed to the particular method of attaching a strip to a balloon.
 - Species II-A directed to heating the strip.
 - Species II-B directed to solvating the strip.
- Genus III directed to the particular method of when the strip disposing occurs.
 - Species III-A directed to disposing which precedes the attaching.
 - Species III-B directed to disposing which follows the attaching.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1, 7-9, 13, 14, 17, and 25 are generic. Applicants hereby elect to prosecute species I-A from genus I, species II-A from genus II, and species III-A from genus III without traverse. Claims 2-4, 10, 15, 18-20, and 22-23 read on the elected species. Claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 16, 21, and 24 are withdrawn from consideration.

Conclusion

Examination of the above-identified claims is respectfully requested. If a phone conference is believed necessary to resolve any outstanding issues with respect to the above discussion, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

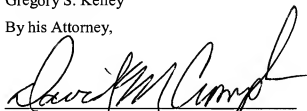
Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Kelley

By his Attorney,

Date: _____

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